



Report of The Director of Environment and Neighbourhoods Directorate

Meeting: Inner South Leeds Area Committee

Date: Tuesday 24th June 2008

Subject: Area Manager's Update Report

<p>Electoral Wards Affected:</p> <p>Beeston & Holbeck City & Hunslet Middleton Park</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)</p>	<p>Specific Implications For:</p> <p>Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Community Cohesion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Narrowing the Gap <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Council Function <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Delegated Executive Function available for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Delegated Executive Function not available for Call In Details set out in the report <input type="checkbox"/></p>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report identifies a range of activity which has been undertaken in recent months by the Area Management Team and/or in conjunction with others.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

1.1 This report provides an update from the Area Manager on the work of the Area Management Team since the last Area Committee met.

2.0 CLEANER NEIGHBOURHOODS

2.1 Clean ups

2.1.1 Environmental Services' (formerly Streetscene Services) Environmental Pride Team and the Estate Caretakers from Aire Valley Homes Leeds have carried out intensive clean ups in Brooms area of Belle Isle in April and clean ups in part of the Cottingley estate and Flaxtons and Greenmounts in Beeston Hill were carried out in June.

2.1.2 In addition to the above, Neighbourhood Wardens have carried out environmental projects, these have included: The intensive clean ups on the Manor Farms and Hunslet carrying out pre audits and post audits and doing work with the residents during the clean ups. A clean up was organised by the Beeston Hill Warden in March

on the Woodviews bin yards post operation champion. A project to clear the shrubs and waste around the Malverns along side Probation services was carried out in April. A project with Environmental Pride was done in May, this involved clearing the Harlechs and Westbournes, serving enforcement letters to all properties with waste in gardens and educating residents on how best to deal with refuse problems.

- 2.1.3 The Area Management Team has sent through a total of 135 referrals to the Environmental Pride Team for rubbish/litter clearing between March 13th and May 23rd. We have recently have received a report from Environmental Services covering the period from December 2007- April 2008. The results are: 60 from Beeston & Holbeck, 243 from City & Hunslet, 77 from Middleton Park, 145 of which were in INM areas.

3.0 INVOLVING COMMUNITIES

3.1 Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker

- 3.1.1 Following on from the last Area Committee meeting, an update report has been produced by the Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker. The section below briefly summarises outcomes of this work in priority neighbourhoods in March, April and May:-

Middleton

- Involvement with Middleton in Bloom. This group are running a garden competition, which was run through the Middleton Community Group in 2007
- On going support is being given to Middleton Community Group

Cottingley

- Continued support being given to TRAC and Cottingley in Bloom
- Assistance being provided to the Cottingley Fayre and attending the planning meetings

Manor Farms

- Supporting resident group in the area and also assisting them with the implementation of various environmental projects in the area

Recreations

- Assisted with Operation Champion in April and carried out environmental improvements
- Continued support and attendance at Voice of Holbeck meetings
- NIP newsletter developed and distributed to 1200 properties
- Assist community group with an information board project at Holbeck Youth Centre

Arthingtons

- Liaised with Middleton Railway for a clean up to take place in June

- 3.1.2 Area Management will soon revise the Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker's work programme for the coming months to ensure that work will be targeted in the key neighbourhoods identified for NIPs in the 2008-11 Area Delivery Plan (see section 5.4 of this report).

3.2 Community Centres

- 3.2.1 An Area Well Being Budget proposal has been developed to try and assist with the management of Manorfield Hall and Watsonia Pavilion. The funding will support maintenance costs and any equipment which is required for these two facilities. Options are currently being explored to look at making these facilities more sustainable in the long term but will take time for these ideas to come to fruition, so some financial support is required in the interim.
- 3.2.2 Proposals have come forward to take over the management of two of the Area Committees buildings – one from Joseph Priestley for the management of Old Cockburn and the other from Tiger 11 for Watsonia Pavilion. It is requested that the Area Committee agrees for more detailed proposals and consultation work to be carried out in respect of both facilities and reported back at the September meeting.
- 3.2.3 Work is still continuing on the development of the database system which will be used by the Corporate Property Management Lettings Unit to implement the revised Community Centres Pricing and Lettings Policy for the Area Committees community centre portfolio.
- 3.2.4 Inner South Community Centres Sub Committee took place on 16th May and discussed all community facilities within the committees portfolio and other community facilities which are of particular interest, such as Manorfield Hall and Middleton Advice Centre.

4.0 MORE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

4.1 The Youth Bus

- 4.1.1 The latest update report received (and sent to councillors) covers April and May 2008, the points below outline the main facts and figures:
- 838 young people access the Youth Bus in April & May – 210 of these were new users and the remaining 832 were young people who had accessed the service previously.
 - In the Middleton Park Ward, 326 young people aged 8 – 19 years were worked with in the neighbourhoods of Manor Farms, Belle Isle and Sissons/Throstles area.
 - 324 young people accessed the Youth Bus in the City and Hunslet Ward when it visited Hunslet Moor, the Arthingtons and Balmorals.
 - In Beeston and Holbeck Ward, 188 young people aged 8 -19 years accessed the Youth Bus when it visited the Cottingley, Parkwoods and Holbeck neighbourhoods.
 - As usual activities provided from the bus included: football, cricket, rugby, basketball, rounders, dodge ball; there were also squash and snacks, music, DVDs, art and jewellery making. In addition Connexions information and information about services were provided.
 - St. Lukes Cares delivered activities from the Youth Bus in partnership with LCC Youth Service, Crossroads Youth Project, O2, Church of the Nazarene, Urban Bar, Hamara, BBC, Football Foundation and Intake High, where one young person has been on work experience from.

4.2 I Love South Leeds Festival 2008

- 4.2.1 The festival is progressing well. Press and publicity activities are currently being undertaken to promote the different aspects of the festival to residents of Inner South Leeds. The PR activities are focusing on the three major festival events of Junior Superstar, Turn It Up and South Leeds Olympics. Junior Superstar and Turn It Up will have a grand finale event each plus an audition session in each ward, whereas the

South Leeds Olympics will comprise of six sporting events held across Inner South Leeds.

- 4.2.2 The grand finale of South Leeds Junior Superstar is set to take place at South Leeds High School on Saturday 28th June. There will be a showcase of talented young people aged up to 11. The Junior Superstar aspect of the festival held auditions in 10 different primary schools and three community venues, one in each of the Inner South wards.
- 4.2.3 The arrangements for Turn it Up and South Leeds Olympics are currently being finalised and will be publicised shortly. Turn it Up will have three heats and a grand finale, where as South Leeds Olympics will have six different sporting events running across Inner South Leeds throughout August.

5.0 REGENERATING AREAS

5.1 Beeston Hill and Holbeck PFI Scheme

- 5.1.1 This month outline planning applications will be made for the development sites identified for housing clearance and where new properties will be built. These applications will set the guidelines on the level and type of development that will be desired for these sites. The final details on the look and layout of the sites will be done in the full planning application which will be made by the selected contractor in summer 2009.
- 5.1.2 Aire Valley Homes will be managing the rehousing of tenants currently living in the development areas. This will be done in phases starting with the 300 tenancies in the Holbeck Towers and Gaitskells tower blocks. Two Rehousing Project Officers have been appointed. They will be contacting tenants on a one-to-one basis, respond to enquiries and will be running rehousing surgeries in Holbeck Elderly Aid.
- 5.1.3 Running alongside the PFI project is the regeneration scheme to acquire privately owned back to back and terraced properties in Beeston Hill and Holbeck for demolition. In the Beverleys 104 properties have been successfully acquired and a further 6 owners have agreed to sell to the Council. The first phase of demolition has recently started. A consultation event will be held in July to canvas local opinion on proposals for new housing on the site once cleared. The event will be publicised once the date and venue have been finalised. In Holbeck 43 properties have been acquired and a further 8 owners have agreed to sell to the Council. Demolition will start as blocks become empty.

5.2 Middleton

- 5.2.1 The Middleton Regeneration Board has met on the 8th April and 3rd June, since the last Area Committee. At the board meeting in June, the Middleton Regeneration Strategy was discussed and the next steps of how to proceed with the implementation of this. A forward plan of items to be discussed at board meetings were also agreed, as well as a standard template for agencies to submit report to the board.
- 5.2.2 The Middleton Regeneration Strategy has been signed off by both the Middleton Regeneration Board and Officer Co-ordination Group. There will now be a series of community consultation drop in sessions / events which residents of Middleton can put their views across on the content on the strategy and also see the plans for regenerating their area over the next 10 years.

5.3 Neighbourhood Improvement Plans - NIPs (see also Priority Neighbourhood Development worker)

a) **Manor Farms NIP** – The Steering Group held on June 18th was the final meeting. All actions as part of the NIP have been completed. The Area Committee's Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker will continue to support the residents group in the interim. A final newsletter of the NIP will be distributed to every household on the Manor Farms estate in the next couple of weeks.

b) **Arthingtons NIP** – Summer edition of NIP newsletter is currently being prepared and will be distributed to households shortly.

c) **Recreations NIP** – The final meeting of the NIP Steering Group is to take place on the 1st July. The Area Committee's Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker will continue to support the residents group in the interim.

5.4 Neighbourhood Improvement Plan programme – 2008-2011

5.4.1 As part of the development of the 2008-11 Area Delivery Plan, work has been undertaken on the drawing up of a list of new priority neighbourhoods to focus on. This has been based upon the Indices of Deprivation 2007 (IoD) statistics, which were published earlier this year. The table below highlights the areas which are suggested to benefit from the NIP process and are in order of priority due to their IoD rankings. The theme focus column highlights where there needs to be specific interventions covering themes due to their rankings in the worst 3 or 10 percent in domains of the IoD information.

Phase 1 – 2008/09

Ward	Area	Specific themes to focus on
Beeston & Holbeck	Waincliffe Place, Cardinals, Thircliffe Gardens	Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Living Environment
City & Hunslet	Trentham St, Oakleys, Garnets	Income Deprivation, Employment, Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Crime, Living Environment, Income affecting Children, Income affecting Older People
	Bismarcks, Dewsbury Road, Burton St, Coupland St, Sunbeam Place	Income Deprivation, Employment, Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Crime, Living Environment, Income affecting Children, Income affecting Older People
Middleton Park	Winroses, Whitebeams, West Granges, Sandon Mt,	Income Deprivation, Employment, Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Crime, Income affecting Children, Income affecting Older People

Phase 2 – 2009/10

Ward	Area	Specific themes to focus on
Beeston & Holbeck and City & Hunslet	Malvern Road, St Lukes, Lady Pit Lane, Normantons, Barton Rd	Income Deprivation, Employment, Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Crime, Income affecting Children, Income affecting Older People
City & Hunslet	Thwaite Gate - Sussex / Pepper Lane / Rochefords	Income Deprivation, Employment, Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training
Middleton Park	Brooms, Nesfields	Education, Skills & Training
	East Granges, Low Granges, Windmill Road	Income, Employment, Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Crime, Income affecting Older People

Phase 3 – 2010/11

Ward	Area	Specific themes to focus on
Beeston & Holbeck	Springwell Road, Domestic Street, Ninevehs, Crosbys	Employment, Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Living Environment
City & Hunslet	Hunslet Green – Church St – Low Rd Boundary – Whitfields / Joseph St / Jack Lane	Health & Disability, Education, Skills & Training, Crime, Income affecting Older People
Middleton Park	Helston Road, Bodmin Cres, Sissons Terr, Bodmin Road, Bodmin Gdns, Sissons Cres	Education, Skills & Training, Crime
	Newhalls, Aberfields, Winrose Approach, Lanshaws	Education, Skills & Training, Crime, Living Environment

5.4.2 Members are asked to endorse the three year programme of NIPs to commence in September 2008. More specific details surrounding the contents of the NIP and composition of the steering groups will be presented to the Area Committee in September.

5.5 Intensive Neighbourhood Management (INM)

- 5.5.1 At the recent INM Steering Group meeting, member representatives raised the issue of the frequency of these meetings. The current arrangement is for quarterly meetings to take place. A member representative is invited from each ward.
- 5.5.2 2008/09 is the final year of the INM programme. The Steering Group has already agreed the revenue and capital expenditure programme for the year, so the main focus of the group is to monitor the progress of the funded projects, and also consider any forward strategy for how existing work can be sustained, and give future direction for any further work on issues that remain priorities. At the last meeting the Steering Group received a presentation from Groundwork Leeds on the Resident Perception Survey they carried out between January – March 2008 in the INM which indicated some very positive feedback on the impact of INM projects over the last couple of years, but also highlighted some issues that remain priorities for residents, including flytipping and bin yard improvements in some of the INM target areas.
- 5.5.3 The area committee is requested to consider how they wish to continue with managing the meeting schedule for the INM Steering Group in 2008/09. The following options are presented for consideration;

- Group to continue meeting on a quarterly basis with a member representative invited from each ward.
- Group to meet six monthly with quarterly progress report emailed to members.
- Group to disband and the area committee take on the steering role, receiving progress reports as part of the Area Manager's report

The above options provide a variable degree of attention on the INM area which aims to focus on the 3% worst neighbourhoods.

6.0 SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS

6.1 Neighbourhood Wardens

6.1.1 During the period March – April the wardens continued the distraction burglary work with presentations at 8 complexes around the area. During April, evening work was carried out to tackle the problem of secondary fires in Beeston Hill and along with the PCSO's to tackle the problems of high levels of anti social behaviour around the Hunslet area. A community engagement event in Holbeck was attended by the wardens to talk to the residents regarding safety issues and environmental issues in the area.

6.2 Operation Champion

6.2.1 Operation Champion took place in Holbeck on the 15-17th April. The target neighbourhood included the Receptions, Rydals, Runswicks and Crosbys area. Activity during the operation included:

- Children from Ingram Road primary school took part in a litter pick to help improve an area at the end of Tilbury Road and along Old Elland Road.
- A community clean up was organized in conjunction with the Area Committee's Priority Neighbourhood Development Worker for local residents to assist with planting up of the large round planter at the end of Tilbury Road.
- Probation services carried out environmental work to assist in the improvements undertaken by the residents.
- The Anti Social Behaviour Unit completed a neighbourhood survey to gather intelligence and information to assist in their work in the area.
- Neighbourhood Wardens completed visits to vulnerable or elderly residents residing in the community to raise awareness of distraction burglary and check home security.
- Arson Reduction team carried out assemblies in local primary schools to warn against arson and raise awareness of the consequences.
- DVLA, HM Revenue and Customs, Civil Warrants undertook enforcement activity during the operation. A truancy sweep took place during the operation.

6.2.2 Operation Champion took place in Hunslet over the 7th-9th June. The target neighbourhood included the Rochefords, Hemmingways, Balmorals, Belindas, Leasowes and Telfords area. An example of the work undertaken is:

- 5.5 tonnes of rubbish was removed by the bulky waste collection service.
- 30 referrals were made to the Warmer Living Project to improve energy efficiency for local residents. Approximately 50 referrals were made to West Yorkshire Fire Service for the fitting of smoke alarms.
- 65 V Crat referrals were made which involves letters being sent to drivers if valuables are left out on show in their cars as a vehicle crime reduction measure.
- The Anti Social Behaviour Unit completed a neighbourhood survey to gather intelligence and information to assist in their work in the area.

- Staff from Neighbourhood Wardens, Police and West Yorkshire Fire Service carried out some outreach work at Morrisons in Hunslet to promote services and identify any anti social behaviour.
- DVLA, HM Revenue and Customs, Civil Warrants undertook enforcement activity during the operation. A truancy sweep took place during the operation.
- Probation Service and Groundwork carried out environmental improvements.

6.2.3 At the Inner South Area Committee meeting in April 08, there was a request for a report back in relation to the outcomes from the Beeston Hill Operation Champion. The report is attached below:

Update of Operation Champion – Beeston Hill (March 2008)

The main emphasis of the operation was to reduce the arson and environmental issues relating to the bin yards by clearing as many as possible.

- Staff from the Environmental Pride Team, Aire Valley Homes Caretakers and Neighbourhood Wardens cleared 37 of the 44 bin yards in the Woodviews area, 2 cleared with a further two being cleared subsequently. 5 of the bin yards we were unable to clear due to the level of waste in the yards, these were steel sheeted to prevent further arson risk until clearance with a mechanical grabber can be arranged.
- Officers from West Yorkshire Fire Service, Aire Valley Homes, Neighbourhood Safety and Leeds Fed visited each household to provide education regarding arson and waste management. A survey was also completed to identify residents main concerns around the bin yards and how they felt would be the best means of keeping them clear in the future. 39 households completed the survey.
- Leaflets were distributed to each household to provide top tips for residents on keeping their bin yard clear.
- Once the bin yards were cleared new wheelie bins were distributed to ensure each household received a bin. A letter was also sent promoting the bulky waste collection service and emphasising the household refuse collection day.
- A daily inspection is now completed by the local warden to check no further dumping has occurred. Each household is currently being issued with a Section 46 notice by Environmental Enforcement.

The outcome of other work carried out by partners included:

- 53 timer switches and light bulbs were installed as part of the light it up campaign.
- 34 home fire safety checks were completed by the Fire Service.
- 4 referrals were made to Environmental Health relating to noise nuisance.
- 1000 newsletters providing crime and community safety information were distributed. The newsletters also include a young persons guide outlining all activities and services in the local area including clubs, sports sessions etc.
- 111 untaxed vehicles were identified by DVLA. 3 fraudulent tax discs were found. 33 vehicles were clamped and lifted.
- A truancy sweep was completed of the area.
- Customs and Revenue took part and completed dip testing for red diesel which led to one positive test.
- The Fire Service and Neighbourhood Wardens carried out two school assemblies to warn children against the dangers of arson and raise their awareness of environmental issues.

6.2.4 Below is a table outlines the dates of the 2008 Operation Champion and where they have taken place and where they have been planned to take place:-

Month	Dates of Operation Champion	Area
January	15-17 January	Middleton
February	27-28 February	Rothwell
March	10-12 March	Beeston Hill
April	15-17 April	Holbeck
May	7-9 May	Hunslet
June	11-13 June	Beeston Hill
July	16-18 July	Belle Isle
August	6-8 August	Far Beeston
September	9-11 September	Beeston Hill
October	8-10 October	Outer
November	3-5 November	Beeston Hill
December	No Operation this month	

6.3 Street lighting

- 6.3.1 Replacing the existing concrete lighting columns with new street lighting columns in Middleton Park Ward is now likely to take place in January 2009 (rather than the originally programmed October 2008).
- 6.3.2 SEC who are the Council's contractor for the streetlighting PFI will give a presentation to the Middleton Forum for key stakeholders in the autumn and they are hoping to do a presentation in the Belle Isle area as well.
- 6.3.2 SEC is responsible for putting a card in every house about 2/3 weeks before work starts in a particular area to provide information to residents and give them a chance to raise any concerns about the locations of the new lighting columns.

7.0 Community Engagement

- 7.1 Area Management are having information stalls at a number of community festivals across Inner South Leeds. So far Area Management has had a presence at Beeston and Hunslet Festivals and stalls are booked at the Middleton Gala, Cottingley Fayre and Holbeck Gala. The aim of these stalls are to increase people's awareness of the Area Committee and Area Management service. The stalls also linked with the community safety strand of the teams work and also promoted Area Committee funded projects such as I Love South Leeds Festival.
- 7.2 For further information about the planned themed Area Committee meetings and ward events please see appendix 1. Members comments are particularly invited.

8.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 8.1 No specific issues are identified.

9.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 8.1 No specific issues are identified

9.0 Recommendations

- 9.1 The Committee is asked:
- a) To note the contents of this report
 - b) Discuss and agree which option they would like progress with regards to the INM Steering Group for 2008/09, as outlined in section 5.5 of this report
 - c) Make comment on the latest proposals for community engagement as outlined in paragraph 7.2 and appendix 1.
 - d) make comment as appropriate on any of the other items in this report